

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #87A-25 Building Date: 1901  
Building Name: Vine Cottage  
Location: 17401 Milltown Landing Road

Private/Residence/Occupied/Fair/Inaccessible

Description

Vine Cottage is a two-story frame dwelling of two-by-two-bays with a two-story, two-by-one-bay frame kitchen wing. Located just south of Milltown Landing Road, it is surrounded by open fields. The two-bay north gable end has entrance in the second bay through a door with twelve upper glass lights and a lower, horizontal wood panel. Windows are 1/1 with louvered shutters. A three-bay entrance porch wraps around the northwest corner of the building and across the west facade. The porch roof is supported by turned and chamfered posts. The building has horizontal wood siding and rests on a brick foundation. The crown molded, boxed cornice is returned in the gable ends. The pediments in the north and west gable ends are sided with fishscale shingles. The two-bay west facade has a two-story, gable roof projecting bay with the same pediment treatment as the north gable end. The south gable end is dominated by the gable roof kitchen wing on the southwest corner. The wing is contemporary with the main block. The complex of outbuildings east and south of Vine Cottage includes a two-story gable roof barn/stable which predates the house. A large tobacco barn and a one-by-one-bay frame gable roof meat house are contemporary with the house. Close to the road is a two-story, two-by-one-bay shop building of vertical wood siding. The building contains a line drive from which several types of farm or woodworking equipment were run simultaneously. East of the house is a one-story, one-by-one-bay gable roof frame generator house and south of the house is a terraced garden.

Significance:

Vine Cottage was built in 1901 by James Burns Wilson, in the vicinity of an earlier Wilson house. The 59.7 acre property was a part of four parcels totaling 655 acres acquired by James Wilson in 1739. The Wilson family has held a part of this property to the present time. Vine Cottage is a fine example of a late 19th/early 20th century farmhouse in Prince George's County. Stylistic elements include its two-story height, wrap-around porch with turned posts, gable end entrance displaying prominent cornice returns and decorative shingle. The dwelling is part of a complex of agricultural buildings built during the early 20th century. These include a 1-1/2 story 1 x 1 frame structure built during the 1920's to house a generator. There is also a two-story shop building. Vine Cottage is one of three Wilson family dwellings in the vicinity. They are local landmarks due to architectural style and association with one family. Vine Cottage is also significant for its complex of farm buildings.

Acreage: 59.7 acres

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. PG 87A-25

Magi No. \_\_\_\_\_

DOE   yes   no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Vine Cottage

and/or common \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Location

street & number 17401 Milltown Landing Rd.    not for publicationcity, town Aquasco    vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 4state Md. county Prince George's County

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert B. and Patricia I. Wilsonstreet & number 17401 Milltown Landing Rd. telephone no.: \_\_\_\_\_city, town Brandywine state and zip code Md. 20613

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 5877street & number Main Street folio 263city, town Upper Marlboro state Md.

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N.A.date \_\_\_\_\_    federal    state    county    local

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Description

Survey No 4687A-25

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Vine Cottage is a two-story frame dwelling of two-by-two-bays with a two-story, two-by-one-bay frame kitchen wing. It is located just south of and fronting on Milltown Landing Road, and is surrounded by open fields.

The two-bay north (main facade) gable end has entrance in the second bay through a door with twelve upper glass lights and a lower, horizontal wood panel. Windows on the facade are 1/1 double-hung-sash with wooden louvered shutters. A three-bay hipped roof entrance porch wraps around the northwest corner of the building and continues across the west facade. The porch roof is supported by turned and chamfered wood posts. There is a wide plain frieze below the porch cornice.

The building is sided with horizontal wood siding painted white and rests on a brick foundation. The crown molded, boxed cornice is returned in the gable ends. A wide plain siding board runs around the building below the cornice, forming a frieze and creating pedimented gable ends. The pediments in the north and west gable ends are sided with fishscale shingles.

The two-bay west facade has a two-story, gable roof projecting bay on the southwest corner of the main block. It has the same pediment treatment as the north gable end. There is an entrance on the north side of the projecting bay, sheltered by the west three bays of the ell-shaped entrance porch.

The south (rear) gable end is dominated by the gable roof kitchen wing on the southwest corner. The wing is of the same materials and is contemporary with the main block. Windows are 6/6 double-hung-sash. The south gable end of the wing is unfenestrated and has an interior corbelled brick chimney at the gable peak. There is a shed roof screened porch on its west side, sheltering a central entrance with a four panel door.

There is a complex of outbuildings east and south of Vine Cottage. A small, two-story gable roof barn/stable with vertical wood siding and standing seam metal roof predates the house. A large gable roof tobacco barn resting on brick piers, and a one-by-one-bay frame gable roof meat house are contemporary with the house. Northeast of the house, close to the road, is a two-story, two-by-one-bay shop building with vertical wood siding, a gable roof and central double entrance doors facing south. The building contains a line drive suspended at head level along the south wall. Several types of farm or woodworking equipment were run simultaneously using this piece of equipment. There are also various antique hand tools in the building. The shop building is also contemporary with the

## 8. Significance

Survey No. 87A-25

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history

Specific dates 1901 Builder/Architect James Burns Wilson

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Vine Cottage was built in 1901 by James Burns Wilson, in the vicinity of an earlier Wilson house which was torn down at that time.<sup>1</sup> The 59.7 acre property was originally a part of four parcels, Haddington, Dunbar, Trenant and Good Luck, totaling 655 acres, which was acquired by James Wilson in 1739.<sup>2</sup> The Wilson family has held and farmed a part of this property through to the present time.<sup>3</sup>

Vine Cottage is a fine example of a late nineteenth/early twentieth century vernacular farmhouse built in Prince George's County. Stylistic elements include its two-story height, wrap-around porch with turned posts, gable end entrance displaying prominent cornice returns and use of decorative shingle. The dwelling is a part of a complex of agricultural buildings built during the early twentieth century. Outbuildings include a story-and-one-half, one-by-one bay frame structure built during the 1920's to house a generator for production of electricity for the farm.<sup>4</sup> There is also a two-story shop building, contemporary with the house, which contains early twentieth century tools and mechanical equipment. There also was a small sawmill, recently demolished, northeast of the house.

Vine Cottage is one of three surviving Wilson family dwellings in the vicinity. The dwellings, within eyesight of each other on Millton Landing Road, are local landmarks due to architectural style and association with one family. Vine Cottage is also significant for its complex of early twentieth century farm buildings.

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Conversation with Edna Connick Wilson, April 1985.

<sup>2</sup> Land Records of Prince George's County, Y:100.

<sup>3</sup> Land Records of Prince George's County, JRM 9:179; and Wills, Docket 1810, Josiah Wilson and David B. Wilson; William James Wilson, Administration #651.

<sup>4</sup> Conversation with Mary E. Wilson, January 1986.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. <sup>86</sup>87 A-25

See notes, #8

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 59.7 acresmap 175 parcel 7Quadrangle name Lower Marlboro H

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting NorthingB 

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Zone Easting NorthingC 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marina King, Architectural Historianorganization Historic Preservation Commissiondate April 1986street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drivetelephone 952-3520city or town Upper Marlborostate MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

## #7. Continued

house. There was a small saw mill west of the shop building which has recently been demolished. Directly east of the house is a one-story, one-by-one-bay gable roof frame generator house on a high cement foundation. This building was built during the 1920's and housed a generator which provided electricity for the house.

South of the house is a terraced garden. The garden terraces and a decorative pond west of the house were formed using the distinctive fossilized oyster shell rock found in this area.

The interior of Vine Cottage has door and window surrounds of banded wood molding with bullseye corner blocks. The molding is varnished rather than painted.

Chain of Title

Vine Cottage  
P.G. #87A-25

5877:263  
10 April 1984  
Deed

Mary E. Wilson to Robert B. and Patricia I. Wilson and Clifford A. and Roberta W. Jenkins. For \$125,000 grantor conveys tract in Aquasco of 59.7 acres. Same land described in deed from Odell C. Rawlings to Ellen Wilson and Mary E. Wilson, 1106:178, 3-11-1949.

1106:178  
19 Feb. 1949  
Deed

Odell C. Rawlings to Ellen Wilson and Mary E. Wilson. For \$10.00 grantor conveys that land obtained from William Burns Wilson, 19th February 1949 recorded prior hereto. Tract 59.7 acres.

1106:176  
19 Feb. 1949  
Deed

William B. and Ruth E. Wilson, Kenneth G. and Edna C. Wilson, Bessie and Bertram Kalisch, Ellen Wilson and Mary E. Wilson to Odell Rawlings. Esther Wilson died intestate 1947, leaving brothers and sisters as heirs. She died possessed of one-third interest in property obtained from James B. Wilson and Henrietta Wilson, 16 Feb. 1934, 417:82. 59.7 acres.

417:82  
16 Feb. 1934  
Deed

James B. Wilson and Henrietta Wilson convey to Ellen Wilson, Esther Wilson and Mary E. Wilson that parcel containing 59.7 acres. Same conveyed to James B. Wilson by deed of partition from William Walter Wilson and Emma G. Wilson, 21 Aug. 1886, JWB: 38:203.

JWB 38:205  
21 Aug. 1886  
Deed

William Walter Wilson and Emma G. Wilson to James Burnes Wilson. Both then tenants in common of property inherited from parents, William James Wilson and Margaret Johns Wilson. Decide on a division of equal worth. James B. Wilson allotted eastern parcel, contains 96.20 acres, Lot 2 of this division. Same land inherited by William James Wilson from his father David B. Wilson. Dunbar, Tenant and Good Luck, purchased by James Wilson from Thomas Sheredive by deed dated October 30, 1739, Liber Y:100 and partitined among his heirs in JRM 9:179.

JAMES H. LEECH  
4954/969  
32.85A.  
P. 75

M. 174 - P. 75

PG: 87A-25

O-S

M. 174 -  
P. 18

KENNETH G. WILSON  
417/081  
36.50A.  
P. 5

● 87A-26

MILLTOWN  
LANDING

ROAD

●  
87A-25

ROBERT B. WILSON, ETAL  
5877/263  
55.70A.  
P. 7

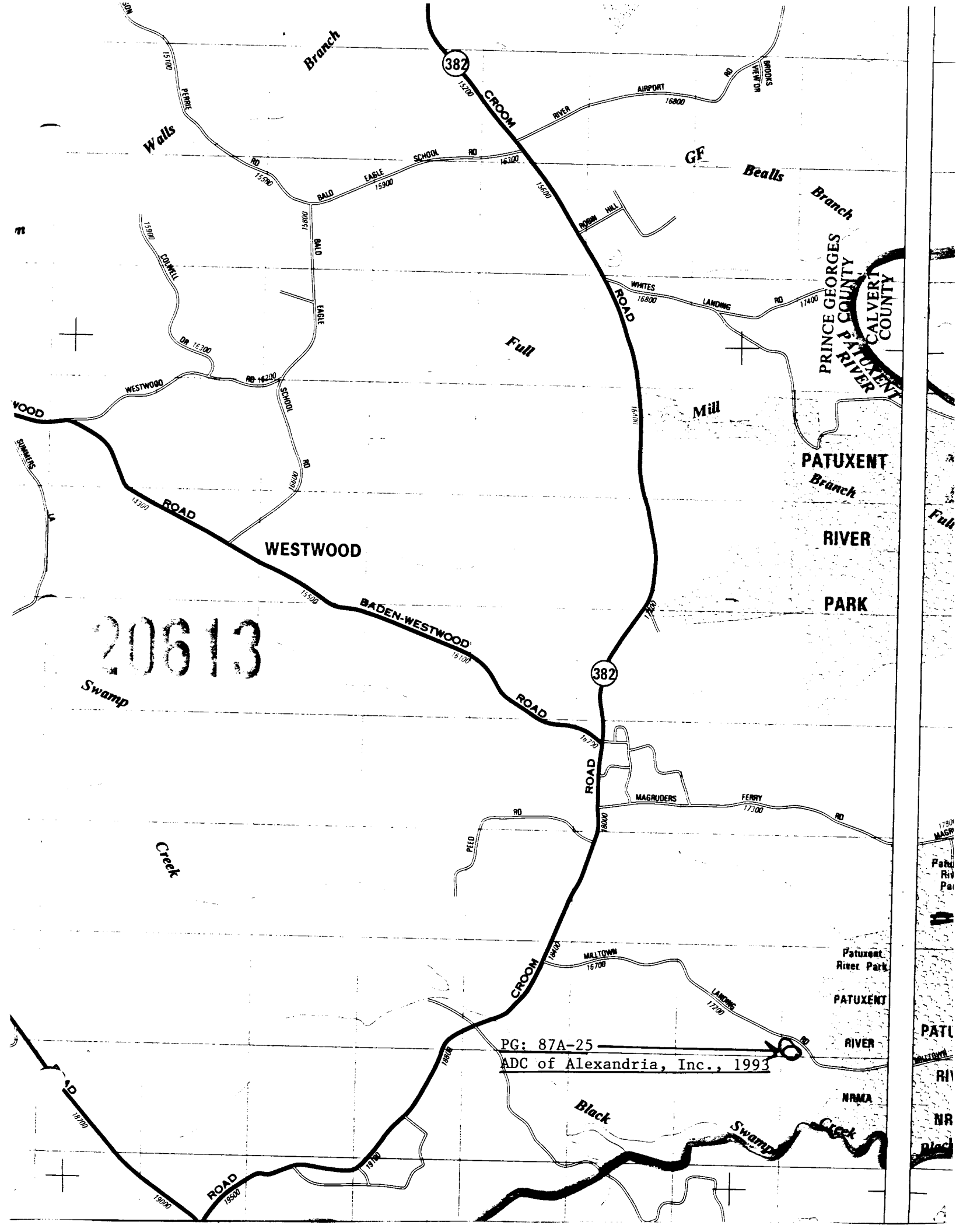
M. 175 - P. 7

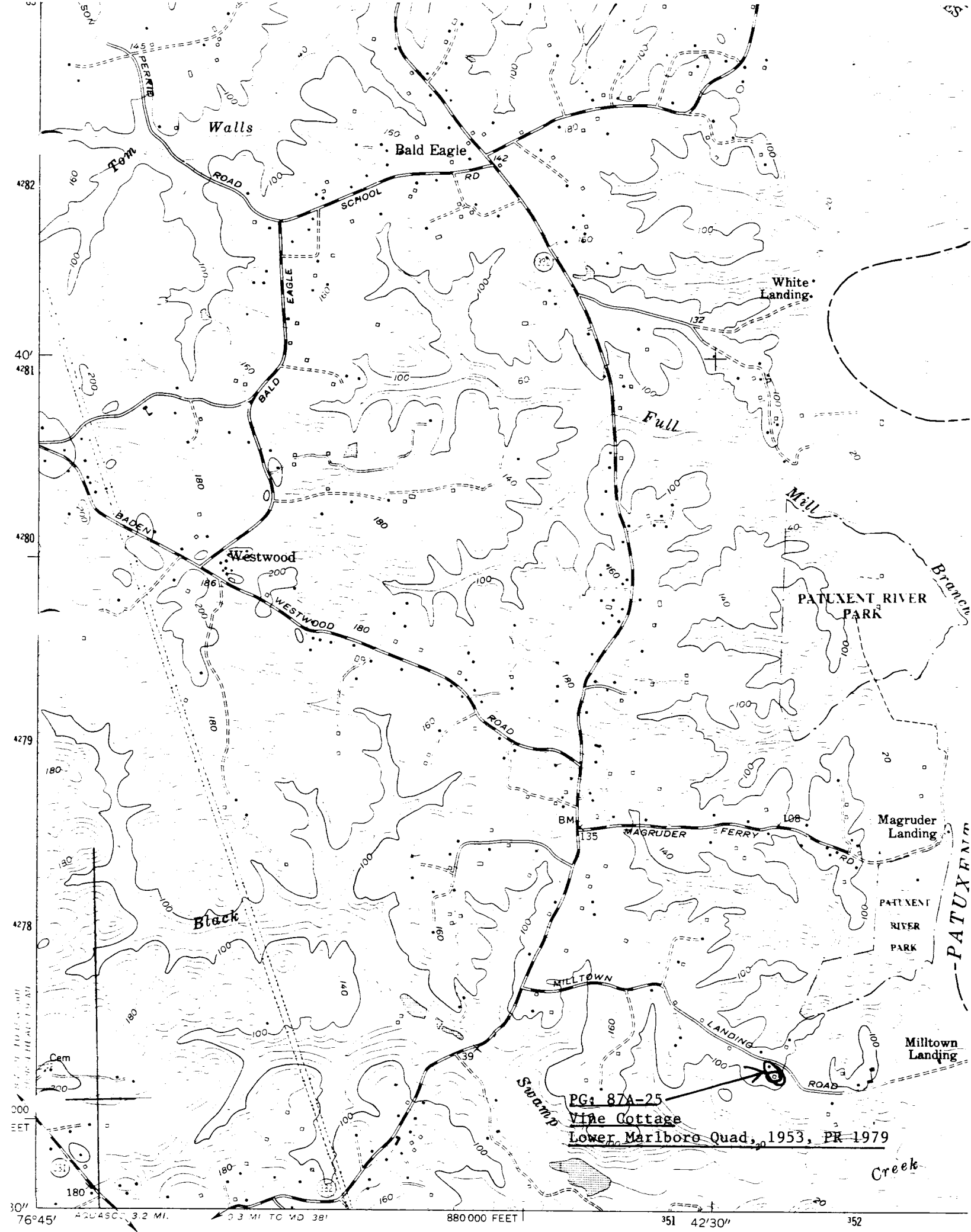
O-S

HARLES W. ELLIS  
3126/135  
95.29A.  
18

BENTON L. GRIMM







PG: 87A-25  
Vine Cottage  
Lower Marlboro Quad, 1953, PR 1979



P.G.#87A-25

Vine Cottage  
Prince George's County, MD  
Marina King  
January 1986  
Generator, meat house, north elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #87A-25

Vine Cottage  
Prince George's County, MD.  
Marina King  
January 1986  
Workshop, south elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G.#87A-25

Vine Cottage  
Prince George's County, MD  
Marina King  
Jan 1986  
North facade  
Neg: MD Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD





P.G.#87A-25

Vine Cottage  
Prince George's County, MD  
Marina King  
January 1986  
East elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#87A-25

Vine Cottage  
Prince George's County, MD  
Marina King  
Jan 1986  
West facade  
Neg: MD Hist Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#87A-25

Vine Cottage  
Prince George's County, MD  
Marina King  
Jan 1986  
Southeast facade  
Neg: MD Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD